Highlander Union Governing Board Meeting

Thursday, March 5th, 2020
11:00am-12:00pm
HUB 260

I. Call to Order @ 11:03 am

II. Roll Call
   A. Members Present
      1. Tommaso Menara, Chair, GSA
      2. Andy Veliz, ASUCR
      3. Leandra Doan, ASUCR
      4. Carolyn Chang, ASUCR
      5. Pablo Unzeuta, GSA
      6. Jessica Noll, GSA
      7. Julian Gonzalez, ASUCR President
      8. John Haberstroh, GSA President
      9. Alex Ruiz, Staff
      10. Dr. Kerry Mauck, Faculty Position
      11. Brendan O’Brien, Ex-Officio
   B. Members Absent
      1. Adam Gutierrez, ASUCR
      2. Sawanee Zadey, ASUCR
      3. Nushera Khan, ASUCR

III. Approval of Minutes
   A. Motion to approve January and February minutes by Carolyn, second by Julian.
      1. In Favor 10  Oppose 0  Abstain 0

IV. Approval of Agenda
   A. Motion to approve the agenda by Carolyn, second by Leandar
      1. In Favor 10  Oppose 0  Abstain 0

V. Chair’s Report: Tommaso Menara, HUB Chair
A. Spring Quarter Meeting Dates
   1. Sending a doodle pool out to establish the last three meetings.

VI. HUB Report: Brendan O’Brien, HUB Director
   A. Coronavirus Update
      1. Facility has been really vigilant in cleaning and wiping down door handles frequently. No updates about events and that decision would come from the Federal and County level. The Well was going to put up posters around the HUB about washing their hands.
   B. Budget Timeline
      1. Capital Project proposal was received from facilities. Approval will not happen later months. Needs to meet with a finance committee to have more in depth conversation before bringing it towards the board. In April have a tentative overall budget. May or June to vote for approval.
   C. Snack Cart: Sign ups coming soon
      1. Sending an email for a sign up sheet to get more board members to participate.
   D. New Events Specialist Hired
      1. Will be managing beacons and display cases reservations, digital signage, and external clients. Will be working by Mid March. Hours that John Perez would be working from 8am-5pm, however it is flexible for weekend management if necessary.

VII. 3rd Party Vendor Recycling and Sustainability: David Henry, Executive Director of Housing, Dining, & Hospitality Services
   A. David’s presentation is about how dining is working on eliminating single waste plastic. They have been working on Ember Bee’s, Starbucks, Coffee Bean, Bytes, Ivan’s, Scotty’s, The Habit, and Subway and providing updates on those vendors. The changes presented are going to be all effective by April 30th or sooner. The coffeeshops are working to get rid of the coffee stoppers, plastic bowls and lids, working on removing the cups that have PET and getting cups with PLA, testing PLA and paper
straws instead of plastic, and plastic utensils. Jessica asked what the financial burden for converting to compostable. David states that they converted several years ago and they have taken the financial hit. In some cases compostable is more expensive and sometimes not as much. Jessica asked if they will get backlash for the cost. David states that they have not gotten any push back and typically hold their budget for an entire year. Jessica asked that there is no site for compost on campus and have to transport it off campus which leads to environmental impact. Hassan answers saying that it is a long conversation to have, but they are now doing food composting. However it still has to be transported to a different location, but they transported to a closer location. There are not enough facilities to collect all the compost from the entire state. David brought packets that go over all of their sustainable initiatives. If the compost goes to the landfill since it gets contaminated it is still better than plastic since they decompose faster than plastic. Two dehydrators will be tested in The Barn and later be included in the residential dining areas. The Habit getting rid of plastic straws, plastic sippy cup lids instead of the straws and trying to find compostable sippy cup lids, plastic bags, and six by eight inch plastic tray for their signature burgers. Subway converted to paper bags. A guest asked why dishware is not available for the third party vendors. David states the space and need for dishware is not available and the nature of fast food disposable nature. The guest then stated about a universal dish room where the university can provide the equipment and dishware. David states the investment would be very large and the cost would be too much and fall back to the consumers. Carolyn asked if there will be a price increase due to all the changes. David states that they are working to get better prices on the products and sometimes replacing the products are saving money. Alex asked what the plan would be for communicating to the community about the changes and what plans for implementing more compostable bins on campus. David says Hassan and Fortino could answer that question. Coffee Bean is working closely on
implementing the same products used with the other coffee shops. Starbucks is difficult to work with and before they can make changes they need a formal request from the university. Plastic water is the number one thing Scotty’s stores sell. Relying on Pepsi for the solution since it is the university’s vendor. Pepsi is working on implementing canned water and can start the transition starting with Scotty’s at the HUB. Pepsi believes they will not be able to provide the demand for the entire campus. All plastic Pepsi products will be changed into a can in the Scotty’s at the HUB. David states that they expect to get backlash due to cans not being resealable, but they are working on getting small plastic covers that can be reused to seal the cans. Converting all the vending machines that have plastic bottles and changing them to cans. Jessica states instead of converting everything to cans to having reusable water bottles available. David states that they are trying to figure out other alternatives to sell items that are alternative to the plastic water bottles. At the Glen Mor Market converted to a plastic reusable woven basket and paper liner that is compostable. Items that are placed to go are put in compostable packaging. The new packaging is also cheaper to purchase. Chronic tacos, Panda Express, and HibachiSan are more difficult to negotiate with, but they are working with them to see what changes can be made. The guest asked if the changes are to comply with UCOP sustainable goal of 2020. David states it is a combination of a couple things, it was supposed to be zero waste by 2020 but changed to 2025. UCOP sustainability and UCOP procurement made it challenging, but are finally connecting. Brendan states that Hassan and Fortino were not presenting and just came in support of David’s presentation. Hassan states that we need to take responsibility for our actions. Students wanted these third party vendors and they came with their own issues. We need to reduce our own waste and take action from there.

VIII. Food Service Report

A. N/A
IX. Public Forum
   A. N/A

X. Subcommittee Reports
   A. Finance
      1. Need people to join the Finance committee to go over the capital budget. Julian, Andy, and Carolyn agree to the committee.
   B. Dining/Honorarium
      1. N/A

XI. Old Business
   A. Altura ATM
      1. Still working with real estate.
   B. Capital Project updates
      1. Card Access: Vendor Selected
      2. People Counters: Installed, calibration this week
         a) They are working!
      3. Furniture for L55 and 1st floor: Met with Bluespace Interiors, options for review in April/May
         a) Bluespace visited the campus and by April/May will have some designs to present.
   C. HUB Operation Hours for FY 2020-2021: On hold pending review of Winter/Spring quarter people counter numbers
      1. Additional advertising is up and needs better data to decide the new hours.

XII. New Business
   A. Advanced Reservation Requests
      1. Motion to approve Advance Reservation Request by Carolyn, second by Alex
         a) In Favor 10  Oppose 0  Abstain 0
   B. Capital Project Review
      1. Capital projects are listed in order of importance by facilities. Further down the list are items that are not urgent, but need to
begin conversations about these items. All projects are rough estimates to get an idea how much projects will cost. Capital Project requests are requested by HUB staff and Brendan. Three different categories: maintenance, operational, expansion reserve. 20% of the budget should go for maintenance. Pable asked to refresh the amount you want. Brendan only maintenance reserve needs to be 20% of the budget. The board can discuss how much to allocate for each of the other reserves. Jessica asked what percentage is put into the operation reserve annually. Brendan states he does not have that number, but will provide it when presenting the budget to the board. Tommasso stated how campus closure will affect HUB funds. Brendan states we will have to see what the impact is and for how long. Alex stated the HUB is what the campus is supposed to look like, recognizing they went over budget last time and there are some items that are not must haves and can be delayed. Brendan states that not everything will be done and they are just ideas that are possible.

C. Future of Dining Discussions

1. Tommasso states that it is in the best interest of students and HUB to discuss current business models with vendors. Having a say in contracts, suggesting future dining vendors, and future recommendations.

XIII. Announcements

A. Alex states that the board needs to have more presence when deciding what happens with dining in the HUB. Critical for the campus if the board is in the frontline of these discussions with dining.

XIV. Adjourn

A. Motion to adjourn by Carolyn, second by Pablo

1. In Favor 10  Oppose 0  Abstain 0